

TITLE IV MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH

CHAPTER 1 ANIMAL CONTROL

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4-1-1 DEFINITIONS

For use in this Chapter the following terms are defined as follows:

1. The term "dogs" shall mean animals of the canine species whether altered or not.
2. The term "at large" shall mean any licensed or unlicensed animal found off the premises of the owner and not under the control of a competent person, restrained within a motor vehicle, housed in a veterinary hospital or kennel, on a leash or "at heel" beside a competent person and obedient to that person's command.
3. The term "owner" shall mean any person owning, keeping, sheltering or harboring an animal.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.2)

4-1-2 LICENSE

The owner of any dog 6 months or older shall be responsible to apply for and acquire a license for such dog as of January 1 each year. The application shall show the breed, sex, age at the time of application, color, approximate weight, distinguishing markings, name of dog and the address and telephone number of the owner. No dog shall be licensed unless evidence of rabies vaccination is presented at the time of application.

The license fee shall be \$10.00/year for altered dogs and \$50.00/year for unaltered dogs. The city shall issue a marked tag that will be permanently secured to the dog's collar. Owners of dogs found without a license tag shall have 72 hours to prove licensing has occurred. The city tags are not transferable. If tags are lost or destroyed, duplicate may be purchased through the city clerk for a charge of \$5.00. Violation of any provisions of this ordinance shall be a simple misdemeanor. Each day violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

4-1-3 IMMUNIZATION

All dogs six (6) months or older shall be vaccinated against rabies. Before issuance of the license the owner shall furnish a veterinarian's certificate showing that the dog for which the license is sought has been vaccinated, and that the vaccination does not expire within six (6) months from the effective date of the dog license. It shall be a violation of this Ordinance

for any dog to not be vaccinated against rabies. A tag showing evidence of proper vaccination shall be worn by every dog when not confined.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.33)

4-1-4 AT LARGE PROHIBITED

No owner or person having custody of an animal shall permit such animal to run at large.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.41)

4-1-5 ANIMAL NUISANCES

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit an animal under such person's control or within such person's custody to commit a nuisance. An animal shall be considered a nuisance if it:

1. Damages, soils, defiles or defecates on private property other than the owner's or on public walks and recreation areas unless such waste is immediately removed and properly disposed of by the owner.
2. Causes unsanitary, dangerous or offensive conditions.
3. Causes a disturbance by excessive barking or other noise making or chases vehicles, or molests, attacks or interferes with persons or other domestic animals.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.1)

4-1-6 IMPOUNDING

1. Any unlicensed or unvaccinated dog found at large or any licensed dog found at large in violation of Section 4-1-3 and 4-1-4 of this Chapter shall be seized and impounded, or, at the discretion of the Mayor, the owner may be served a summons to appear before a proper court to answer charges made thereunder.
2. Owners of licensed dogs shall be notified within two (2) days that upon payment of impounding fees, the dog will be returned. If the impounded licensed dogs are not recovered by their owners within seven (7) days after notice, the dogs shall be disposed of as provided in Section 717B.4 Code of Iowa.
3. Impounded unlicensed dogs may be recovered by the owner, upon proper identification, by payment of the license fee, impounding fee and boarding costs, and the costs of vaccination if vaccination is required by Section 4-1-3. If such dogs are not claimed within seven (7) days after notice, they shall be disposed of in a humane manner as directed by the City Council.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.37)

4. Any animal found to have bitten a person or other animal shall be confined as directed by the Mayor.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.39)

5. This section shall not apply to a law enforcement dog or horse used by the law enforcement agency, that is acting in the performance of its duties, which has bitten a person.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.39)

4-1-9 DANGEROUS ANIMALS

1. **Dangerous Animals Prohibited.** No person shall keep, shelter, or harbor for any purpose within the City limits, a dangerous animal.
2. **Definitions.** A dangerous animal is:
 - a. Any animal which is not naturally tame or gentle, and which is of a wild nature or disposition, and which is capable of killing, inflicting serious injury upon, or causing disease among human beings or domestic animals, and having known tendencies as a species to do so.
 - b. The following are animals which shall be deemed to be dangerous animals per se:
 - (1) Lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, cougars, lynx, and bobcats;
 - (2) Wolves, coyotes, and foxes;
 - (3) Badgers, wolverines, weasels, skunks, and mink;
 - (4) Raccoons;
 - (5) Bears;
 - (6) Monkeys, chimpanzees, and apes;
 - (7) Alligators and crocodiles;
 - (8) Scorpions and gila monsters;
 - (9) Snakes that are venomous or constrictors;
 - (10) Any cross breed of such animals which have similar characteristics of the animals specified above.
 - c. Any animals declared to be dangerous by the City Council.
3. **Dangerous Animals Exceptions.** The keeping of dangerous animals shall not be prohibited in the following circumstances:
 - a. The keeping of dangerous animals in a public zoo, bona fide educational or medical institution, humane society, or museum where they are kept as live specimens for the public to view, or for the purpose of instruction, research or study, and has obtained the written approval of the City Council.

4-1-10 KEEPING A VICIOUS ANIMAL

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to harbor or keep a vicious animal within the City. A vicious animal is deemed so when it shall have attacked or bitten any person (without provocation), or when the propensity to attack or bite persons or other animals shall exist and such propensity is known or ought reasonably be known to the owner thereof.

4-1-11 KENNEL DOGS

Kennel dogs which are kept or raised solely for the bonafide purpose of sale and which are kept under constant restraint are not subject to the provisions of this ordinance.